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Manual of devotion

MANUAL OF DEVOTION

FOR PERSONS GOING TO SEA,

BEING

A WEEK'S PRAYERS, READINGS, AND HYMNS.

BY A FRIEND TO SEAMEN.

SOUTHWARK:

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SABBATH MORNING.

PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm lxxxiv. and Exodus xx. 8—11.

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts ! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth, for the courts of the Lord ; my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house : they will be still praising thee. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee ; in whose heart are the ways of them : who, passing through the valley of Baca, make it a well : the rain also filleth the pools. They go from strength to strength ; every one of them in Zion appeareth before God. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer : give ear, O God of Jacob. Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield : the Lord will give grace and glory : no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Remember the sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work : but the seventh day, is the sabbath of the Lord thy God : in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates : for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath-day, and hallowed it.

HYMN. C. M.

Thou shalt call the sabbath a delight.—Isaiah lviii. 3.

Hail Sabbath ! hail ! blest day of God !
Of all the seven the best :
Welcome to each believer's heart,
This day of sacred rest!

B 2

To-day the great Redeemer rose,
 And triumphed o'er the grave ;
 Ascended far above all heavens,
 Omnipotent to save !

This is the pledge of heavenly rest,—
 Of joys that never end,
 Where all the ransomed church of God,
 Eternal years shall spend.

O may our souls this hallowed day,
 Sweet peace with God enjoy ;
 And things eternal and unseen,
 Our inmost thoughts employ !

Then when our earthly sabbaths cease,
 And all inferior good ;
 Lord, waft our spirits to thy throne,
 Through the Redeemer's blood !

PRAYER.

O Thou, the great Lord of the sabbath, who didst wisely direct, that a certain portion of man's time should be devoted especially to thy service, another week has passed away from me, never to be retraced ;—another week, in which thousands of our fallen race have finished their earthly course ; while I, rich in the enjoyment of many blessings, am mercifully spared, for the purpose, I humbly trust, of being more firmly established in the faith of Jesus, and more strengthened for every good work.

To speak of all thy goodness, O Lord, is far beyond the power of man, for thy counsels are very deep, and thy footsteps are not known,—but I see daily before my eyes sufficient manifestations of thy love to me a miserable sinner,—of what thou hast done for me, to draw forth my gratitude and praise. My body now raised from sleep by thy controlling power, and my soul refreshed by thy protecting Spirit, manifestly declare it,—nor would I omit to speak of man's highest privilege,—the permission of approaching thee, through a Saviour's merits, and in this appointed way holding intercourse with thee a holy God.

I blush, and am ashamed to reflect how unworthy is this my offering, and how cold is the heart that presents it. Supply me

with grace, O heavenly Father, that I may have a deeper sense of thy wonderful condescension, and a more settled feeling of my unworthiness, under the least of all thy mercies. I beseech thee, that this day, which thou hast wisely consecrated for thine own use, may be the beginning of a new and spiritual life in me.

May the remembrance of that stupendous act, which Christ completed, stimulate me to be more diligent in my christian race ; awaken me from my dangerous sleep, and cause me from henceforth to live unto him, who not only descended into the grave—becoming sin, who knew no sin, for me,—but arose again for my comfort and justification.

May I, in the stillness of my cabin, commune with my heart in secret, and be occupied in thy statutes ; so shall I be prepared to wait upon the Bridegroom when he cometh, to pass with him a sweeter and holier sabbath, in the new Jerusalem—where the spirit, unencumbered with a corruptible frame, shall mount up on eagle's wings, and never be wearied with singing hallelujahs to the King that sitfeth upon the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.—

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name—thy kingdom come—thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread ; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil ; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

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Our Father, who art in heaven, &c.

SABBATH EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm xix.

The heavens declare the glory of God ; and the firmament sheweth his handy work. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun ; which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it ; and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul : the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple : the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart : the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes : the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever : the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold ; sweeter also than honey and the honey-comb. Moreover, by them is thy servant warned ; and in keeping of them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors ? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins ; let them not have dominion over me : then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

HYMN. P. M.

There remaineth a rest to the people of God.—Hebrews iv. 9.

Sweet is the hour of our repose,
When day has smiled its farewell close,
And sweet the Sabbath's rest !
But sweeter far that soothing balm,
That lengthened Sabbath's promised calm,
In mansions of the blest !

There in our heavenly Father's sight,
Released from toil, of burdens light,
We shall true rest enjoy ;

There we shall faint not, feel no pain
 There sorrow, sin, assail in vain,
 And bliss shall never cloy !

PRAYER.

It is meet and right, O Lord, and my bounden duty, that I, who have waited upon thee to-day, and heard the glorious tidings of salvation published, should finish my solemn sacrifice and shut in this day of rest, by an act of prayer and thanksgiving. Wake, then, O my soul, let me worship and bow down, and kneel before the Lord my Maker.

I am conscious that the solemn business I have been engaged in to-day, has been imperfectly performed ;—that I have not praised thee with the fervour that becomes a sinner who has no righteousness of his own to plead, nor prayed with that earnestness which becomes the needy prodigal, who has lost his treasure and seeks to be made rich at the throne of grace.

For these things I humble my guilty self before thee, and my soul is grieved within me ; but though I am disquieted, I will not despair, for thy mercy is high above all the earth ; and I know that a broken and contrite spirit, thou wilt not despise. I possess, moreover, the blessed assurance, that if any man sin, there is an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and that he is the propitiation for our sins. This is my trust when transgressions rise up against me, this is my resting-place in the day of trouble. For his sake, then, incline thine ear, and seal to me a full pardon, while I deplore the many unhallowed thoughts that have been mixed up with my best devotions, the want of spirituality in the exercise of prayer ; the sabbaths of preceding years, in which many forbidden things have been done, and many important things left undone.

Pardon, O Lord, the hours that have been mis-spent, the feeble resolutions I make to redeem them ; the vain, the frivolous conversation in which I too frequently indulge, and the backwardness with which I turn from objects that are visible and temporal to those that are invisible and eternal.

Pardon, I pray thee, the unworthiness of every christian congregation that has met together this day ;—change the hearts of those who have hewed out to themselves cisterns that will hold no water, and despised the fountain—that well-spring of life, where they might have drawn freely, and drank, and been filled. Give to the ignorant a measure of knowledge, and let not the true light be hidden from them ; melt down the proud and presumptuous, and transform them into the image of thy dear Son. Give to the foolish, who say there is no God, a spirit of discernment to know thee in the works of providence and creation ; and a heart to tremble at their own sinfulness, before the mild and gentle Mediator become an unrelenting Judge, and the Prince of peace be turned into the Lion of the tribe of Judah. Hear my prayer, O Lord, for the sake of the Saviour of sinners.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

It is meet and right, O Lord, and our bounden duty, that we who have waited upon thee to-day, and heard the glorious tidings of salvation published, should finish our solemn sacrifice, and shut in this day of rest, by an act of prayer and thanksgiving. Awake then, O our souls, let us worship, and bow down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

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MONDAY MORNING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm xciv.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord ; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth ; the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it ; and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down ; let us kneel before the

Lord our maker. For he is our God ; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness : when your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways : unto whom I sware in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest.

HYMN. C. M.

Plenteous in mercy.—Psalm ciii. 8.

Come, let our hearts on mercy muse,
Our tongues of mercy sing;
Who will refuse, for mercy's gifts,
A tribute song to bring?

'Twas mercy waked our infant eyes
With light's all-gladdening ray ;
Mercy has fed our countless wants,
Returning every day.

Pardon of all our deeds the chief,
By mercy's hand is given ;
For mercy shed the Saviour's blood,
To make us heirs of heaven.

Sing to the God of mercy, sing
A song of grateful praise :
Praise him through life, and after death
A nobler anthem raise.

PRAYER.

Almighty God, I return thee my humble and hearty thanks for all the blessings which thou hast continually dispensed to me ; but, above all, I thank thee that, in giving this life, thou hast made me capable of obtaining eternal happiness through the merits of my Saviour.

O God, I confess myself unworthy of those blessings, and that I have done those things that I ought not to have done ; but, O Lord, who hatest nothing thou hast made, and art always more ready to forgive than to punish, spare me, I humbly beseech thee, and let the vengeance I have justly incurred, be averted from me.

For the sake of my gracious Redeemer, receive me into thy gracious favour. As I look to thee for the forgiveness of my past sins, so do I implore thy future guidance ; thou art the protector of all those who trust in thee ; I can do no good thing without thee ; grant me the help of thy grace ; make me truly penitent for my sins ; and sanctify my heart that I may in all things please thee.

While it is thy gracious will to bless me with prosperity, endue me with humility and moderation ; and when thou seest good to try me with affliction, grant me patience and thorough resignation to thy will, and a firm trust in thy mercy.

Give me, O Lord, that most excellent gift of christian charity, and dispose me to return good for evil, and rather to excuse than to condemn the failings of others. Establish in me a spirit of content, and enable me to discharge the duties of my station with diligence and cheerfulness.

O Lord, in thy mercy uphold my soul ; and that I may enjoy the blessed consciousness, that the same divine power that breathed in me the first breath of life, will recal the last parting throb to himself, and receive the immortal spirit into the mansions of peace, where neither sin nor sorrow shall enter. And this I beg for Jesus Christ his sake.—Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

Almighty God, we return thee our humble and hearty thanks for all the blessings which thou hast continually dispensed to us ; but, above all, we thank thee that, in giving this life, thou hast made us capable of obtaining eternal happiness through the merits of our Saviour.

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Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm xcvi.

O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens. Honour and majesty are before him;

strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name : bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness : fear before him, all the earth. Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth : the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved : he shall judge the people righteously. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad ; let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof. Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein ; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord ; for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth ; he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

HYMN. L. M.

Thy faithfulness every night.—Psalm xcii. 2.

Glory to thee, my God, this night,
For all the blessings of the light ;
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings
Beneath the shadow of thy wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
The ills that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed ;
Teach me to die, that so I may
Rise glorious in the judgment day.

O let my soul on thee repose,
Let balmy sleep my eyelids close :
And when the morning light I see,
My active powers I'll yield to thee.

PRAYER.

I will lay me down in peace and take my rest, for thou, Lord, only makest me to dwell in safety ; and into thy hand I commend my spirit, soul, and body ; for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth. Let my prayer, O Lord, be set forth as incense, and the lifting up of my hands be as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, my heavenly Father, whose glory the heaven of hea-

vens cannot contain, look down from the throne of thy majesty, and behold thy unworthy servant at the feet of thy mercy, humbly confessing to thee the vanity and sinfulness of my whole life, especially the omissions and commissions in my duty this day, wherewith I have so lately offended thine infinite goodness, and so grievously wounded my own soul.

Of these and all my other transgressions, I most truly repent ; and am heartily sorry for all my misdoings,—the remembrance of them is intolerable. Heave mercy upon me, most merciful Father, for thy Son Jesus Christ's sake. Forgive me all that is past, and accept of my prayers and supplications through the merits and mediation of my Redeemer.

Accept my unfeigned thanks for preserving me this day from the many dangers incident to my condition, and from the many calamities justly due to my sins. Subdue in me every evil passion ; and, since thou hast ordained the night for rest, grant me a continuance of thy gracious protection, and defend me from all the perils and dangers of this night, that, being refreshed with moderate sleep, I may be enabled to discharge the duties of my calling, and to persevere in holiness and pureness of living, through the remainder of my days, through Jesus Christ.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

We will lay ourselves down in peace and take our rest, for thou, Lord, only makest us to dwell in safety ; and into thy hand we commend our spirits, souls, and bodies ; for thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, thou God of truth. Let our prayers, O Lord, be set forth as incense, and the lifting up of our hands be as the evening sacrifice.

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TUESDAY MORNING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm xcvi.

- The Lord reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about him; righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about. His lightnings enlightened the world; the earth saw, and trembled. The hills melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory. Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols; worship him all ye gods. Zion heard and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O Lord. For thou, Lord, art high above all the earth; thou art exalted far above all gods. Ye that love the Lord, hate evil; he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness

for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

HYMN. C. M.

I awaked, for he sustained me.—Psalm iii. 5.

Through all the dangers of the night,
Preserved, O Lord ! by thee,
Again we hail the cheerful light ;
Again we bow the knee.

Preserve us, Lord ! throughout the day,
And guide us by thine arm ;
For they are safe, and only they,
Whom thou preserv'st from harm.

Let all our works and all our ways,
Declare that we are thine,
That so the light of truth and grace
Before the world may shine.

PRAYER.

Lord God, bountiful and gracious, long suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth ; thou keepest mercy for thousands ; thou pardonest iniquity, transgression, and sin ; neither dost thou retain thine anger for ever, because thou delightest in mercy. Look down, O Lord, upon me, who would now be looking up to thee ; and be favourable to me, as thou art unto those who fear thy name.

Look not upon the sin of my nature, nor the sins of my heart and life, which are more than I can number, and greater than I can express. O sprinkle me from an evil conscience, by the application of the blessed Redeemer's blood, which cleanseth from all sin. And seeing there is in him an infinite fulness of all that ever I can want or wish, to render me holy, and to make me happy ; grant me to receive out of his fulness grace sufficient for me,—grace to pardon my sins, and to subdue my iniquities ;—to justify my person, and to sanctify my soul.

Begin, or carry on, the new creation within ; advance in me that saving change of heart, which may, by the power of the Spirit, more and more transform me into thy blessed image, and

make me meet to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light. And now that I have entered upon another day, I beseech thee to carry me through it in thy fear and favour.

Order all my steps in thy word, and let no wickedness have dominion over me. Teach me to use the world without abusing it; and may that portion of it which thou hast and shalt assign me, be sanctified to me by the word of God and prayer, and by the right employment and improvement of it to thy glory.

Whatever I am without, O leave me not destitute of the things that accompany salvation, but satisfy me with a sense of thy favour, and adorn me with the graces of thy Holy Spirit. Blessed be thy rich goodness, which has renewed my life, and thy mercies to me this morning: Lord grant that all my comforts may flow to me in the channel of covenant love, and revert to the praise and glory of the gracious Giver.

Be with, protect, and bless me, in going out and coming in. May the angel of thy presence save me, and the God of angels be my shield, and exceeding great reward. Make me desire, resolve, and endeavour to live in the obedience of thy holy will, and to the honour of thy blessed name. O restrain me from the evils and follies into which I am prone to fall; and quicken me to the offices and duties I ought to perform. Grant that I may think and speak, will and do, the things that are well-pleasing in thy sight, and have the strong consolation of acceptance with thee.

So visit me with thy salvation, so sanctify me by thy grace, and so carry me through life, that thy name may have the praise, and my soul the comfort in the hour of death, and in the great day of our Lord Jesus Christ.—Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

Lord God, bountiful and gracious, long suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, thou keepest mercy for thousands; thou pardonest iniquity, transgression, and sin; neither dost thou retain thine anger for ever, because thou delightest in mercy. Look down, O Lord, upon us, who would now be looking up to

thee ; and be favourable to us, as thou art unto those who fear thy name.

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Begin, or carry on, the new creation within ; advance in us that saving change of heart, which may, by the power of the Spirit, more and more transform us into thy blessed image, and make us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. And now that we have entered upon another day, we beseech thee to carry us through it in thy fear and favour.

Order all our steps in thy word, and let no wickedness have dominion over us. Teach us to use the world without abusing it ; and may that portion of it, which thou hast and shalt assign us, be sanctified to us by the word of God and prayer, and by the right employment and improvement of it to thy glory.

Whatever we are without, O leave us not destitute of the things that accompany salvation, but satisfy us with a sense of thy favour, and adorn us with the graces of thy Holy Spirit. Blessed be thy rich goodness, which has renewed our life, and thy mercies to us this morning. Lord grant that all our comforts may flow to us in the channel of covenant love, and revert to the praise and glory of the gracious Giver.

Be with, protect, and bless us, in going out and coming in. May the angel of thy presence save us, and the God of angels be our shield and exceeding great reward. Make us desire, resolve, and endeavour to live in the obedience of thy holy will, and to the honour of thy blessed name. O restrain us from the evils and follies into which we are prone to fall ; and quicken us to the offices and duties we ought to perform. Grant that we

may think and speak, will and do, the things that are well-pleasing in thy sight, and have the strong consolation of acceptance with thee.

So visit us with thy salvation, so sanctify us by thy grace, and so carry us through life, that thy name may have the praise, and our souls the comfort, in the hour of death, and in the great day of our Lord Jesus Christ.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

PORITION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm xciii.

O sing unto the Lord a new song, for he hath done marvellous things ; his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory. The Lord hath made known his salvation : his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen. He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel : all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth ; make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise. Sing unto the Lord with the harp ; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm. With trumpets and sound of cornet, make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King. Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof ; the world and they that dwell therein. Let the floods clap their hands ; let the hills be joyful together before the Lord ; for he cometh to judge the earth : with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

HYMN. S. M.

O that thou wouldest bless me.—1 Chronicles iv. 10.

Thou God of Jabez, hear,
While we entreat thy grace ;
And borrow that expressive prayer,
With which he sought thy face.

" O that the Lord indeed,
 " Would me, his servant, bless ;
 " From every evil shield my head,
 " And crown my path with peace !

" Be his Almighty hand,
 " My helper and my guide ;
 " Till with his saints in Canaan's land,
 " My portion he divide."

PRAYER.

Enable me, gracious God, to desire thee as my chief good ; and to come to thee as my merciful Father in the Son of thy love. In his great name and prevailing mediation alone it is, that I, who have multiplied my offences, am encouraged still to present my prayers before thee.

I am utterly unworthy to approach thy footstool, and to enjoy the privilege of intercourse with thee. I durst not appear in the presence of thy holy, glorious Majesty, in my own name, or trusting in my own righteousness ; my guilt is so great, and my iniquities are so grievous, that I might justly be ashamed to come before thy face, and tremble for fear of thy judgments.

I would therefore fly for refuge to the merits of him, who, I trust, has fully satisfied thy justice for my sins, and is now interceding at thy right hand for my soul ; whom thou delightest to honour in sparing, accepting, and saving poor unworthy sinners, upon his account.

Deliver me, most gracious Lord, for his sake, from all those transgressions for which my heart condemns me, and from all of which thou, that art greater than my heart, knowest me to be guilty ; and seal to me a full pardon in his most precious blood, which speaketh better things on my behalf than I am able to do for myself in all my prayers. And may the time past of my life suffice to have lived to myself, and to have served my corrupt will. O put an end to all my presumptuous and treacherous dealings with thy heavenly, all-seeing majesty ; and create in me

a new and clean, humble and contrite heart, to tremble at thy word and presence, and to hate and abandon all foolish and sinful misdoings.

Command thy blessing and thy saving grace to descend and rest upon the souls of my friends. Cause us all to know the joyful sound of thy gospel ; not only by the hearing of the ear, but in the channel of heavenly experience. O take possession of our heart, and by the power of thy Spirit draw up our affections to thy blessed self. Grant us union and communion with thee ; such a sight and sense of sin, and of our lost estate by nature, as may render Christ and his righteousness precious to us ; and such comfortable views of our justification through him as may enlarge our hearts with joy—fill our lips with praise—and influence us to live unto him that died for us and rose again.

Lord, guide and keep me ; make me wise and faithful in my several duties, and blessed and prosperous in the event. Sanctify every condition to me, and fit me for whatever thou shalt be pleased to call me. And now, O Lord, I beseech thee to accept the evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for the mercies of the day past, and for thy unwearied goodness which has followed me all the days of my life, through Christ Jesus.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

Enable us, gracious God, to desire thee as our chief good ; and to come to thee as our merciful Father in the Son of thy love. In his great name and prevailing mediation alone, it is that we, who have multiplied our offences, are encouraged still to present our prayers before thee.

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Deliver us, most gracious Lord, for his sake, from all those transgressions for which our hearts condemn us, and from all of which thou, that art greater than our hearts, knowest us to be guilty; and seal to us a full pardon in his most precious blood, which speaketh better things on our behalf than we are able to do for ourselves in all our prayers. And may the time past of our lives suffice to have lived to ourselves, and to have served our corrupt wills. O put an end to all our presumptuous and treacherous dealings with thy heavenly, all-seeing Majesty; and create in us new and clean, humble and contrite hearts, to tremble at thy word and presence, and to hate and abandon all foolish and sinful misdoings.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING.

PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Jonah i. and ii.

Now the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it ; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa ; and he found a ship going to Tarshish : so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. But the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, and there was a mighty tempest in the sea, so that the ship was like to be broken. Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man to his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them : but Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship : and he lay, and was fast asleep. So the ship-master came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper ? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not. And they said every one to his fellow, Come, and let us cast lots, that we may know for whose cause this evil is upon us. So they cast lots, and the lot fell upon Jonah. Then said they unto him, Tell us, we pray thee, for whose cause this evil is upon us. What is thine occupation ? and whence comest thou ? What is thy country ? and of what people art thou ? And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew ; and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea, and the dry land. Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this ? (for the men knew that he fled from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.) Then said they unto him, What shall we do unto thee, that the sea may be calm unto us ? for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous. And he said unto them, Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea ; so shall the sea be calm unto you ; for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you. Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land ; but they could not : for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. Wherefore they cried unto the Lord, and said, We beseech thee, O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood : for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee. So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into

the sea : and the sea ceased from her raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows. Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, and said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou hearest my voice. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about; all thy billows and thy waves passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight, yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. The waters compassed me about, even to the soul ; the depths closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head. I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever; yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord. And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

HYMN. C. M.

Forget not all his benefits.—Psalm ciii. 2.

My God ! thy hand, through all the night,
While I in safety slept,
From sinking in a watery grave,
My life, exposed, has kept.

O may I with returning day,
To thee my tribute bring ;
And with a heart replete with love,
Thy praise devoutly sing.

Convinced that I thy law have broke,
And mercy need from thee,
May I, through Christ's atoning blood,
Be pardoned and made free.

May the bless'd Spirit of my God,
Create me pure within,
And through the business of the day,
Guard me from every sin.

PRAYER.

O Lord, the great and dreadful God ! in whose hands is my time, and at whose mercy is my soul, and all that concerns me both here and hereafter ; thou, even thou, art to be feared ; and who may stand in thy sight, when thou art angry ?

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and happy is the man that feareth always ; but to harden my heart against thy fear, is not only folly and impiety, but madness and ruin. I am afraid, O Lord, because I have feared thee no more. I am afraid, because I have thought so lightly of thee, who couldest, if it had pleased thee, have avenged thee of thine adversary, and cast me at any moment into the depths of hell.

I am afraid, O Lord, because I have been so fearless in the ways of sin, where I should not have dared to venture ; and so timorous in the cause of God, where I should not have feared the face of any man. O absolve me, good Lord, from all this guilt that lies upon me ; and put thy fear into my heart, that I may never experience what a fearful thing it is to fall into thy hands. O stir up my heart to fear thy name, and let thy fear be ever before my eyes, to restrain me from the evil of my ways.

Let me so stand in awe of thee, that I may not dare to provoke thee. Let me not be so much afraid of a man that shall die, as of the Almighty, ever-living God ; nor so fear any loss or suffering (which can at most be only temporal) as I fear the sin and wickedness that would deprive me of the good everlasting.

O let me fear thee, Lord, and depart from evil ; let me have my God in such regard, that I may not wilfully violate thy holy laws : let me ever be afraid to dishonour thy name, or to rebel against thy holy word, or to rest short of what thou requirest at my hand. And O that thy fear may not only keep under some of my sins, but regulate my whole life, and sway my very heart, that I may do thy will entirely from the heart, and go on to perfect holiness in the fear of God.

May I fear thy name, and not dishonour it ;—fear thy wrath, and not provoke it ;—fear thy word, and not despise it ;—fear thy goodness, and not abuse it ;—fear thy omniscience, and not make

bold with secret sins ;—fear thy omnipotence, and not strive with my Maker in any case. May I keep up an awful regard of thy glorious Majesty, and a dutiful respect to all thy holy commands to the latest hour of my life.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

O Lord, the great and dreadful God! in whose hands are our times, and at whose mercy are our souls, and all that concerns us both here and hereafter ; thou, even thou, art to be feared ; and who may stand in thy sight when thou art angry ?

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Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm cii.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and let my cry come unto thee. Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble ; incline thine ear unto me : in the day when I call, answer me speedily. For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth. My heart is smitten and withered like grass, so that I forget to eat my bread. By reason of the voice of my groaning, my bones cleave to my skin. I am like a pelican of the wilderness, I am like an owl of the desert. I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the housetop. Mine enemies reproach me all the day ; and they that are mad against me are sworn against me. For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping, because of thine indignation and thy wrath ; for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down. My days are like a shadow that declineth, and I am withered like grass. But thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever ; and thy remembrance unto all generations. Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion : for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come. For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof. So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth thy glory. When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory. He will

regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer. This shall be written for the generation to come; and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord.

HYMN. SEVENS.

Fear not, for I am with thee.—Isaiah xlvi. 10.

Shudder not to pass the stream,
Venture all thy care on Him ;
Him whose dying love and power
Still'd its tossing, hushed its roar ,

Safe is the expanded wave,
Gentle as a summer's eve ;
Not one object of his care
Ever suffered shipwreck there !

See the haven full in view !
Love divine shall bear thee through ;
Trust to that propitious gale,
Weigh thy anchor, spread thy sail !

Saints in glory perfect made,
Wait thy passage through the shade ;
Ardent for thy coming o'er,
See, they throng the blissful shore !

Mount their transports to improve—
Join the longing choir above—
Swiftly to their wish be given—
Kindle higher joy in heaven !

Such the prospects that arise
To the dying christian's eyes !
Such the glorious vista, Faith
Opens through the shades of death.

PRAYER.

O God, infinite in goodness and love, who art most sweet and amiable in thyself, and most attractive on account of thy glorious excellencies and perfections, and also for all the wonders of thy mercy and bounty ! What rich mercy is it, that thou hast made me capable of loving thee, beyond which the highest angels know no greater bliss ; yea, that thou hast not only given me capacity for it, but the greatest obligations to engage my heart to it ! Yet after all the reasons and motives which I have to love

thee, my God, O how poor and defective has been my love ! yea, in what strangeness and enmity to thee, O Lord, have I lived ! It is my sin, and shame, and misery, to be so listless and backward to thy love.

O my God, I have done foolishly and wickedly in forsaking the fountain of living waters, to hew to myself broken cisterns that can hold no water,—shutting my heart against the love of my chiefest good ; and preferring any trifles and vanities of this present time,—yea, and the satisfaction of my own foolish and hurtful lusts, above thee and thy love, which is better than life.

O gracious God, be thou pleased to pardon all the defects of my love to thee, and all the excesses of my love to earthly things, and turn my inclinations and affections from all vain objects to thy blessed self, who art most worthy of all my love, and to conquer all my prejudice, and for ever win my heart. O show thyself to me as a pardoning God, full of compassion, ready to forgive and willing to save. Yea, make me to know so much of the love wherewith thou hast loved me, that I may make better returns of love to the gracious Giver of all my good.

The Lord direct my heart into the love of God ; and shed abroad and increase thy love in my heart, that I may love the Lord my God with all my heart, and soul, and mind, and strength. O shew me the vanity of all those tempting things, which would draw away my love from thyself ; and so discover thyself to my soul, that my heart may be unalterably fixed on thee ; yea, make this heart of mine, which has been so cold and insensible to thy love, to feel henceforth its mighty warmth and power ; that from complaining of the want, I may come to rejoice in the abundance of it.

O let me not rest in the gifts, forgetting the bountiful Giver of every good thing ; but draw me, and join my heart, Lord, still nearer to thyself, with the cords of love. And, together with all my enjoyments in the world, O let me enjoy still more of thee, O my God, in the enjoyment of whom consists all my true life, and peace, and happiness, here and for ever. Engage to thyself, O my Lord, the chief and choicest affections of my heart, and make it the willing captive of thy love.

Help me at all times to manifest my love to thee, by hating

evil, and keeping thy commands, and delighting to do thy will, O my God. Let the desire of my soul, the care of my heart, and the endeavour of my life, be to observe and please thee. And so secure my heart, Lord, to thyself, that I may not go astray from thee, but may be rooted and grounded in thy love, and, through thy good help and grace, may keep myself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ, unto eternal life.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

O God, infinite in goodness and love, who art most sweet and amiable in thyself, and most attractive on account of thy glorious excellencies and perfections, and also for all the wonders of thy mercy and bounty! What rich mercy is it, that thou hast made us capable of loving thee, beyond which the highest angels know no greater bliss; yea, that thou hast not only given us capacity for it, but the greatest obligations to engage our hearts to it? Yet, after all the reasons and motives which we have to love thee, our God, O how poor and defective has been our love! Yea, in what strangeness and enmity to thee, O Lord, have we lived! It is our sin, and shame, and misery, to be so listless and backward to thy love.

O our God, we have done foolishly and wickedly in forsaking the fountain of living waters, to hew to ourselves broken cisterns that can hold no water; shutting our hearts against the love of our chiefest good; and preferring any trifles and vanities of this present time; yea, and the satisfaction of our own foolish and hurtful lusts, above thee and thy love, which is better than life.

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Help us at all times to manifest our love to thee, by hating evil, and keeping thy commands, and delighting to do thy will, O our God. Let the desires of our souls, the care of our hearts, and the endeavours of our lives, be to observe and please thee. And so secure our hearts, Lord, to thyself, that we may not go astray from thee; but may be rooted and grounded in thy love, and, through thy good help and grace, may keep ourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ, unto eternal life.—Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Acts xxvii. 13—44.

And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence they sailed close by Crete. But not long after, there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon. And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into

the wind, we let her drive. And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat ; which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship ; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven. And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship ; and the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship. And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away. But after long abstinence, Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. And now I exhort you to be of good cheer : for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul ; thou must be brought before Cesar : and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer ; for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Howbeit, we must be cast upon a certain island. But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country ; and sounded, and found it twenty fathoms : and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms. Then fearing lest they should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day. And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship, Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved. Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off. And while the day was coming on, Paul besought them all to take meat, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried, and continued fasting, having taking nothing. Wherefore I pray you to take some meat, for this is for your health ; for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you. And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all ; and when he had broken it, he began to eat. Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat. And we were in all in the ship, two hundred threescore and sixteen souls. And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea. And when it was day, they knew not the land ; but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship. And when they had taken up the anchors, they

committed themselves unto the sea, and loosed the rudder-bands, and hoised up the main-sail to the wind, and made toward shore. And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground ; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves. And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape. But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose ; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land : and the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

HYMN. P. M.

A covert from the tempest.—Isaiah xxxii. 2.

Jesus ! lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly ;
While the raging billows roll,
While the tempest still is high !
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
Till the storm of life is past :
Safe into the haven guide ;
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none !
Hangs my helpless soul on thee ;
Leave, ah ! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me :
All my trust on thee is stayed ;
All my help from thee I bring ;
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want ;
All in all in thee I find ;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness ;
Vile and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found—
Grace to pardon all my sins ;

Let the healing streams abound,
 Make and keep me pure within.
 Thou of life the fountain art,
 Freely let me take of thee ;
 Spring thou up within my heart,
 Rise to all eternity.

PRAYER.

I would adore that mercy, O Lord, which is above the heavens, and which reacheth to the ends of the earth ;—that mercy for which there is no spot too distant, no creature too mean, and no wretchedness too extreme. Have mercy on me, O God, according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.

I would adore that faithfulness which is displayed in the regular succession of day and night, that righteousness which is more stable than the mountains, and thy judgments which are past finding out. From the vengeance of thy justice, may I find a refuge in the cross ; and at thy judgments may I look with the faith which trusts, and the awe that adores.

Thou preservest man and beast amidst the perils and helplessness of infancy ; and amidst the perils and helplessness of the night, thou dost protect. The Lord has been my keeper and my shade. I have rested on thy bosom, and I have walked in thy light.

How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O God ! How precious are its blessings—how vast its extent—and how tender its pity ! O give me an interest in that love which passeth knowledge, in its height, and depth, and breadth, and length. Because thy loving-kindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. It produces joys which life cannot give, and creates hopes which it cannot inspire. O may I find, that what is good in life, it sanctifies and sweetens.

I have seen in the throbbing breast, the intermitting pulse, and the failing eye, sad evidences that life is departing ; and, in the

ghastly features, that incipient corruption of the dead, that life is extinguished. I have seen friendship passing into indifference, and succeeded by dislike and opposition ; but thy kindness shall not depart from its objects ; it will shine in the bliss of the departed soul—thy care of the mouldering clay—the resurrection of the just—and the happiness of immortality !

Influenced by thy love, O Lord, may I now and for ever trust thee, and commit the keeping of my soul to thee in well-doing, as to a faithful Creator, deeply regretting that my mind was so long enmity against thee. May I be solicitous that my love to thee may abound in all fervor, and in all knowledge ; and by it let my prayers be dictated, my praises animated, and my obedience prompted.

May I trust in the atonement, for peace of conscience,—in thy paternal care, for the supply of my wants,—in thy tender pity, for suitable consolation,—and in thy quickening power, for hope in death. May I go up through the wilderness, leaning on Christ as my beloved and my friend ; and with this reliance, may I step into eternity, and enter into rest. And all this I ask for Christ's sake.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

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Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Philippians iv. 1—8.

Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved, and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. And I intreat thee also, true yoke-fellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel; with Clement also, and with other my fellow-labourers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men: the Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God; and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

HYMN. C. M.

Let us return unto the Lord.—Hosea vi. 1.

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road,
That leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew,
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul-refreshing view
Of Jesus and his word?

What peaceful hours I then enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void,
The world can never fill!

Return, O holy Dove! return,
Sweet messenger of rest!

I hate the sins that made thee mourn
And drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only thee !

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame ;
So purer light shall mark the road,
That leads me to the Lamb !

PRAYER.

How beautiful and how extensive, O Lord, are the precepts of thy law ! and, impressed with their reasonableness, their excellence, and their obligations, I beseech thee to write them in my heart. O that my wishes were excited to observe thy statutes. Keep me from deceit in every form, and let no prospect of gain, and no fear of loss, ever induce me to violate truth. Let integrity and uprightness ever preserve me.

O guard me from that levity and giddiness which are so ill-suited to the character and state of mortal and sinful creatures, and which lead into so many follies and snares. May the awe of God be constantly in my mind, and may I pass the time of my sojourning here in fear. Teach me to be more solicitous about what will improve, than about what will amuse me ; and to deem it better to go to the house of mourning, than to the house of feasting.

Enable me to give to all their due, to exercise myself daily, to have a conscience void of offence towards God and man. Create in me a clean heart, turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity, and dispose me to abhor the songs, the jests, and the sports of wantonness. Whatever is friendly and kind may I cultivate and practice, and may what is respected by the wise and good appear estimable to me ; and above all may I study to show myself approved unto God.

Give me that tenderness of conscience, which shrinks even from the appearance of evil, and that ardour for holiness which nothing will satisfy but conformity to the Saviour's image. In

the varied scenes and acts of piety and virtue, may I hold on to the end, and may the God of grace and peace be ever with me.

May I delight to consider him, amidst my waking periods, who hid thy law within his heart, and in whose mouth there was no guile,—who was a man of sorrows,—who is the Holy One and the Just, who always did the things that pleased his Father, and in whose character shone forth the perfection of beauty; and may I be enabled to lift mine eyes to thee, and to say, I have remembered thy name, O Lord, in the night, and have kept thy law.

Make the gospel precious to me, for the beauty of its morality as well as for the grace of its doctrines, and do thou incline my heart to perform thy statutes always even to the end. While some regard only one class of duties, and neglect others equally binding and equally important; while some value themselves on their honesty and truth, who are rude and merciless; and while others value themselves on their humanity, who are by no means fair in their dealings or true to their word, may it be my wish to stand complete in all the will of God.

Suffer me not to place the least confidence in any act of duty; but let my reliance be entirely and constantly fixed, for peace and mercy with thee, on him who is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth; and to thy name be the glory for ever.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

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FRIDAY MORNING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Matthew xxiv. 35—41.

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man ; no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came and took them all away ; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. Then shall two be in the field ; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill ; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

HYMN. L. M.

Thy loving-kindness is better than life.—Psalm lxiii. 3.

Awake ! my soul ! in joyful lays,
To sing thy great Redeemer's praise :
He justly claims a song from me,
His loving-kindness, O how free !

He saw me ruined in the fall,
Yet loved me notwithstanding all ;
He saved me from my lost estate,
His loving-kindness, O how great !

Though numerous hosts of mighty foes,
Though earth and hell my way oppose ;
He safely leads my soul along,
His loving-kindness, O how strong !

When trouble, like a gloomy cloud,
Has gathered thick and thundered loud ;
He near my soul has always stood,
His loving-kindness, O how good !

Soon shall I pass the gloomy vale,
Soon all my mortal powers must fail ;
O may my last expiring breath
His loving-kindness sing in death !

Then let me mount and soar away,
To the bright world of endless day ;
And sing, with rapture and surprise,
His loving-kindness in the skies.

PRAYER.

O thou who hearest prayer, before thee I fall, adoring thy gracious Majesty ; and to thy throne of grace I approach, to obtain mercy and find grace to help. Blessed be thy name, that, through Jesus, a sinner may have access to thee. O holy God, I am a sinner, and would confess it with shame and grief. I have dishonoured thy laws, rebelled against thy government, and abused thy favours ; I might have been made a monument of vengeance ; and hadst thou sent me to hell, I must have called thee just.

But here I am, O God of patience, at thy footstool ; and with a broken heart and contrite spirit, I beg for the pardon of all my sins. Wash this polluted soul in the atoning blood of Jesus. Manifest thy pardoning love to my heart, and by the spirit of adoption may I call thee Father. And, O, through him who came not by blood only, but by water also, cleanse this heart of mine and make it new. Take away the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh. Fill my soul with sincere hatred to all sin ; and may the love of Christ, shed abroad in my heart, constrain me to crucify the flesh, with all its corrupt and deceitful lusts.

Accept my thanks for the preservation of the past night. Afford me thy presence and Spirit this day. Make me faithful in all the duties of my calling. Preserve me from the evils that are in the world. May my light shine before men. May my walk and conversation adorn the doctrines of grace. Help me to maintain a conscience void of offence toward God and man.

Bless, O Lord, all that are near and dear to me ; grant them the same blessings I ask for myself. Prosper thy gospel ; give success to thy ministers ; and bless thy whole church. Fit me for all the duties or trials of the day. May I get good and do good, and be spared to close this day with renewed praises. I

ask all only in the name and for the sake of Jesus, my precious and adorable Saviour, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, is one God over all, blessed for ever.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

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Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalm cxxxix.

O Lord, thou has searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising : thou understandest my thoughts afar off. Thou compassest my path, and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me ; it is high, I cannot attain unto it, Whither shall I go from thy Spirit ? or whither shall I flee from thy presence ? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there ; if I make my bed in hell, behold thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea ; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me ; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee ; but the night shineth as the day : the darkness and the light are both alike to thee. For thou hast possessed my reins : thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made ; marvellous are thy works, and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect ; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God ! how great is the sum of them ! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand : when I awake, I am still with thee. Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God ; depart from me, therefore, ye bloody men. For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies

take thy name in vain. Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee ? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee ? I hate them with perfect hatred ; I count them mine enemies. Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts ; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

HYMN. L. M.

Thou God seest me.—Genesis xvi. 13.

Among the deepest shades of night,
Can there be one who sees my way ?
Yes :—God is like a shining light,
That turns the darkness into day !

When every eye around me sleeps,
May I not sin without controul ?
No :—for a constant watch He keeps,
On every thought of every soul !

If I could find some cave unknown,
Where human feet had never trod,
Yet there I could not be alone ;
On every side there would be God !

He smiles in heaven ;—he frowns to hell ;
He fills the air, the earth, the sea :
I must within his presence dwell ;
I cannot from his anger flee.

Yet I may flee,—he shows me where ;
To JESUS CHRIST he bids me fly ;
And while I seek for pardon there,
There's only mercy in his eye.

PRAYER.

O Lord, my God ! most high and mighty, most wise and holy, most just and good ! thou art, and ever wast, and for ever shall continue unspeakably blest and glorious, above all that I can possibly conceive. Thou humblest thyself even to behold the things that are in heaven. O how wonderful is thy condescension, then, to look upon such a worm as I am. Yet, O Lord, regard even me, thy unworthy and sinful creature, in mercy. I may well be ashamed to look up, for my sins are innumerable. I have sinned against light and knowledge, against love and mercy,

against vows and resolutions. God be merciful to me a sinner. Thou hast not left me without hope ; for Jesus hath died, the just for the unjust, to brings sinners to God. Thou dost invite the weary and heavy-laden to come for rest, and hast promised to cast out none that come. Lord ! behold I come. I come to thee, in Jesus the new and living way. Accept me, pardon my sins, speak peace to my conscience, shed abroad thy love in my heart ; and may thy good and holy Spirit renew me daily in the spirit of my mind, that I may put off the old man of sin, and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Remember in mercy, O God, all who ought to share in my prayers. Pity and relieve the sick and afflicted. Enlarge the borders of thy church, and assist all thy faithful ministers to preach thy word with plainness, with boldness, with affection, and success. Oh pull down the strongholds of Satan in the world, and set free all that are tied and bound with the chain of their sins. Give thy judgments, O God, to the queen ; and may all magistrates fear thee, and do justice.

Thou hast been very gracious to me this day. I have had food and raiment, health and friends, and all the necessaries of this life. Oh ! help me to live as well as speak thy praise. Continue thy fatherly care over my soul, body, and habitation this night. Prepare me, O Lord ! for the close of life ; that when I come to die, I may only have to put off these clothes of mortality and enter into eternal rest. This, O Lord, I humbly ask, for the sake of Jesus Christ my Saviour.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

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SATURDAY MORNING.

PORITION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ.

Psalms xxiii., xxiv.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow

of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me, in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein: for he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

HYMN. L. M.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates.—Psalm xxiv.

Our Lord is risen from the dead,
Our Jesus is gone up on high;
The powers of hell are captive led,
Dragg'd to the portals of the sky.

There his triumphal chariot waits,
And angels chant the solemn lay;
“ Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates,
Ye everlasting doors give way !”

Loose all your bars of massy light,
And wide unfold the radiant scene;
He claims those mansions as his right,
Receive the King of glory in.

“ Who is the King of glory,—who ? ”
The Lord that all his foes o'ercame,
The world, sin, death, and hell o'erthrew,
And Jesus is the conqueror's name.

Lo ! his triumphal chariot waits,
And angels chant the solemn lay,

"Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates !
Ye everlasting doors, give way!"

"Who is the King of glory,—who?"
The Lord of boundless power possessed,
The King of saints and angels too,
God over all, for ever blest.

PRAYER.

I would come and worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord my Maker ; for thou art the Lord my God, and I am one of the sheep of thy pasture, and the workmanship of thy hands. I am, indeed, fearfully and wonderfully made. But I would adore thee, O God, not only as man's Creator, but as his preserver.

A few hours ago, I committed myself to thy protection and care, and thou hast saved me from peril, and endued me with strength. And yet many are destitute of my advantages. Some have been exclaiming, wearisome nights have been appointed unto me, when shall I see the morning light ? How many wretched souls have fled since the last setting sun ! Others have awakened to circumstances of unexpected solicitude and sorrow. How great is thy loving-kindness to me, O God !

Help me to put my trust under the shadow of thy wings. For thy name's sake, be gracious to me still. Never leave me, never, never forsake me. If I have much, may I enjoy thee in all ; if I have little, may I enjoy all in thee. Whatever I have, do thou bless ; whatever I need, do thou bestow ; and whatever is injurious to my best interests, do thou remove. I am now, and I shall be while in this tabernacle, spiritually necessitous. But how can I sufficiently praise thee for the glorious gospel of the blessed God. Here I find, lost as I am, that there is a great salvation ;—weak as I am, that there is help laid upon one who is mighty ;—poor as I am, that unsearchable riches are treasured up in Christ ;—and though I have nothing, that in him I may have all things.

O give me grace to look to Him, that I may have redemption through his blood ! Suffer me not to defer the acceptance of his righteousness. Convince me that I must be saved now or never ;

that I must be saved in this world, or I cannot be saved in the next ; that I must be saved from sin, or I cannot be saved from hell. That the future blessings of the righteous may be mine, dispose me to seek their present advantages. Influence me by thy Holy Spirit to obey the exhortation,—To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts as in the provocation. May I watch unto prayer, guard against unholy thoughts, repress the first risings of corruption, and remember my vows, tracing all that is good to thee, and all that is evil to myself. Girding up the loins of my mind, may I be sober, and hope to the end, for the grace that is to be brought unto me at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

In prospect of the last messenger's arrival, may I be able to say, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith ; and henceforth there is laid up for me, a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day, and not unto me only, but unto all them that love his appearing. While I exclaim, God be merciful unto me, and bless me, and cause his face to shine upon me, I would add,—Let thy way be known upon earth, thy saving health upon all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God, yea, let all the people praise thee ; then shall the earth yield her increase, and God, even my own God, shall give me his blessing. And all I ask, is through the mediation of Him, who bore my sins, and carried my sorrows, to whom, with the Father and the Spirit of grace, be endless praises.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals, or for a ship's company.]

We would come and worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker ; for thou art the Lord our God, and we are the sheep of thy pasture, and the workmanship of thy hands. We are indeed fearfully and wonderfully made. But we would adore thee, O God, not only as man's Creator, but as his preserver.

A few hours ago, we committed ourselves to thy protection and care, and thou hast saved us from peril, and endued us with strength. And yet many are destitute of our advantages. Some

have been exclaiming, Wearisome nights have been appointed unto us; when shall we see the morning light? How many wretched souls have fled, since the last setting sun! Others have awakened to circumstances of unexpected solicitude and sorrow. How great is thy loving-kindness to us, O God.

Help us to put our trust under the shadow of thy wings. For thy name's sake, be gracious to us still. Never leave us, never, never forsake us. If we have much, may we enjoy thee in all; if we have little, may we enjoy all in thee. Whatever we have, do thou bless; whatever we need, do thou bestow; and whatever is injurious to our best interests, do thou remove. We are now, and we shall be, while in this tabernacle, spiritually necessitous. But how can we sufficiently praise thee, for the glorious gospel of the blessed God! Here we find, lost as we are, that there is a great salvation; weak as we are, that there is help laid upon one who is mighty; poor as we are, that unsearchable riches are treasured up in Christ; and though we have nothing, that in him we may have all things.

O give us grace to look to Him, that we may have redemption through his blood. Suffer us not to defer the acceptance of his righteousness. Convince us that we must be saved now or never; that we must be saved in this world, or we cannot be saved in the next; that we must be saved from sin, or we cannot be saved from hell. That the future blessings of the righteous may be ours, dispose us to seek their present advantages. Influence us, by thy Holy Spirit, to obey the exhortation,—To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden nor your hearts as in the provocation. May we watch unto prayer, guard against unholy thoughts, repress the first risings of corruption, and remember our vows; tracing all that is good to thee, and all that is evil to ourselves. Girding up the loins of our minds, may we be sober, and hope to the end, for the grace that is to be brought unto us at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

In prospect of the last messenger's arrival, may we be able to say, we have fought a good fight, we have finished our course, we have kept the faith; and henceforth there is laid up for us a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give us at that day, and not unto us only, but unto all them

that love his appearing. While we exclaim, God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us, we would add—Let thy way be known upon earth, thy saving health upon all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God, yea, let all the people praise thee: then shall the earth yield her increase, and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing. And all we ask, is through the mediation of Him, who bore our sins, and carried our sorrows, to whom, with the Father, and the Spirit of grace, be endless praises.—Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ

Luke v. 1—11.

And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the Lake of Gennesaret. And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: and so was also James and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all and followed him.

HYMN. S. M.

Faithful and wise steward.—Luke xii. 42

A charge to keep I have,
 A God to glorify ;
 A never-dying soul to save,
 And fit it for the sky ;
 To serve the present age,
 My calling to fulfil :
 O may it all my powers engage
 To do my Master's will !

Arm me with jealous care,
 As in thy sight to live ;
 And O ! thy servant, Lord, prepare
 A strict account to give :
 Help me to watch and pray,
 And on thyself rely ;
 Assured, if I my trust betray,
 I shall for ever die.

PRAYER.

O Lord, who is like unto thee. Thou art the blessed and only Potentate, the King eternal, immortal, invisible, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen, or can see. I rejoice that though thou art thus exalted, far above all blessing and praise, still thou hast respect unto the lowly, and even hast pleasure in them that fear thee, in them that hope in thy mercy. Were it not for the assurance that thy compassion is boundless, I must sink into despondency and despair. If I say that I have no sin, I deceive myself, and the truth is not in me; but if I confess my sins, thou, O Lord, art faithful and just to forgive me my sins, and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. May I earnestly repent and be heartily sorry for my transgressions; may the remembrance of them be grievous unto me, and the burden of them be intolerable. Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, most merciful Father; for thy Son the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive me all that is past, and grant that I may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life. Alas, for me, I am prone to forget the things that make for my peace. Stir up my mind by way of remembrance. Let all the means I have of spiritual good, be in

constant exercise beneath the effectual blessing of my God. Make my conscience faithful to its trust, and me attentive to its monitions. May I regard the work of the Lord, and consider the operation of his hands. Let the word of God dwell in me richly in all wisdom. Inspire me with that devotion which habitually operates, which will make it my delight to pour forth the whole soul before thee ; and, when this is not permitted, to waft fervent and holy ejaculations to thy throne. Supply me every day, every hour, every moment, with the influences of the ever-blessed Spirit. Without his aid, I am weaker than a worm ; with him, I am but a little lower than the angels.

Take charge, I entreat thee, of my temporal circumstances, O thou that clothest the lillies of the field, and feedest the fowls of the air, and hearest the young ravens when they cry. Two things only I require of thee : remove far from me vanity and lies ; give neither poverty nor riches ; feed me with food convenient for me, me lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord ? Or, lest I be poor and steal, and take the name of my God in vain. O send me nothing that thou wilt not bless, and take nothing from me in thy displeasure. Suffer me never to imagine that this is my rest, and guard me against the evil of wishing to depart before all the fruit thou requirest is brought forth, or wishing to stay, when the master calls me.

May a knowledge of thy will, be enough to induce entire submission, and to ensure prompt and cheerful obedience. O give to me the holy and happy state of mind, which shall allow the declaration,—Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty ; neither do I exercise myself in great matters, nor in things too high for me. O Lord, thou demandest my tribute for the mercies of this day, enable me with a sincere and ardent gratitude to present it at thy feet.

Accept my offerings through the beloved, who, while I am undeserving, is worthy to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and might, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Indulge me now, I pray thee, with refreshing sleep ; or, if this be denied, may my soul be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips, when I remember thee on my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches. In the morning

of thy day, the Sabbath day, which thou hast consecrated, may I arise beneath the smiles of thy countenance ; and to the Triune Jehovah, be ascribed majesty and dominion, for ever and ever.—Amen.

[The same prayer adapted for two or more individuals or for a ship's company.]

O Lord, who is like unto thee ! Thou art the blessed and only potentate, the King eternal, immortal, invisible, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen, or can see. We rejoice that, though thou art thus exalted far above all blessing and praise, still thou hast respect unto the lowly, and even hast pleasure in them that fear thee, in them that hope in thy mercy. Were it not for the assurance that thy compassion is boundless, we must sink into despondency and despair. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us ; but, if we confess our sins, thou, O Lord, art faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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PRAYERS FOR PARTICULAR OCCASIONS.

JUST AFTER LEAVING THE HOME PORT.

Most glorious and gracious God, in whose hands, and under whose control are all the events of our lives, and all the circumstances connected with our lot upon earth ; we now approach thee as the God of providence, and the God of grace.

We have once more loosed from our native land ; we are again on the bosom of the great deep ; and once more we are directing our course to a distant country. O let us go forth in thy favour, and be conducted on our way under thy blessing. While we were in port, thou didst refresh and comfort us with many tokens of thy mercy and goodness ; now, O Lord, we beseech thee to keep, direct, and prosper us on the present voyage. Thou only knowest what dangers and difficulties lie in our way ; and thou only canst save and deliver us from them. We come, therefore, unto thee as an almighty and most merciful Father, to commit all our further proceedings into thy hands, entreating thee to direct all our paths.

Go with us, O Lord, as our shield and defence against all the dangers of the sea, and every violence of wicked men. Watch over us by day and by night, and return us in due time, in peace and safety, to our native land, that we may once more enjoy the comforts of our own habitations, and the society of our beloved friends and families ; that we may enjoy our former religious privileges, and be favoured with such means of grace as may reveal thy dear Son Jesus Christ unto our souls, and enable us to rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

While we are far from those who are near and dear to us, O Lord, be thou their Father and their Friend ; comfort them in all their sorrows and afflictions ; support them under all their trials ; purify and refresh their souls by thy grace and Holy Spirit ; and

in thine own good time, let us meet and rejoice together in praises to thee, as the author of all our mercies, and the God of all our consolation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

FOR THE OUTWARD-BOUND PASSAGE.

Almighty God! Father of all mercies! thy power and goodness far exceed all our knowledge, and thy judgments are past our finding out. To thee it belongeth to order the bounds of our habitation, and to appoint the lot of our inheritance. To thee it belongeth to cut off our days and our expectations at a stroke, or to lengthen them out to distant years. It is to thy overruling providence we owe our present mercies. Thou in wisdom settest up one, and in righteousness puttest down another. Thou appointest some to dwell on shore, and others, like ourselves, to go down to the sea in ships, and to occupy their business in deep waters. All this is the will and work of thee, our heavenly Father, and it ought to be good in our eyes.

Again hast thou led us forth from our native land, and we are daily proceeding further and further from our country, and from the sight of those who are near and dear unto us. We are now shut out, as it were, from the eyes of men, and separated from the kingdoms of the world; but wherever we go we are still present with thee. If we ascend up into heaven, thou art there; and if we go down into hell, thou art there also. If we take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall thy hand lead us, and thy right hand hold us.

O heavenly Father! let the thoughts of this, thy continual presence, keep our souls in a solemn, watchful, humble frame before thee. While the winds wast our ship and our bodies into distant climates, let thy Holy Spirit stir up our hearts, and raise our desires and affections towards heaven. While the ocean rolls its waters between us and the land of our nativity, and divides us from those we most love on earth, let nothing separate either

them or ourselves from thy loving-kindness and tender mercy. Wherever we sail during this voyage, let us still approach to thy blessed kingdom. Whatever trials yet lie before us, let us be the children of thy providence, and the objects of thy love; and while we here labour for the meat that perisheth, do thou feed our souls with living bread from heaven.

Do thou bless and preserve all our dear friends and relations, whom we have left behind us; let them by faith, in peace and quietness, serve thee our God; and grant that we may in due time, return in safety, health, and comfort, with the fruit of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to unite with them in praising and glorifying thy holy name, for ever and ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Amen.

ON THE HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSAGE.

Most merciful and gracious Lord God! Thou art the eternal Jehovah, who delighteth in mercy, and whose tender compassions are over all thy works. We thy unworthy servants, now presume to lift up our voices, and to bless and praise thee for all thy past mercies and unmerited goodness to us as a ship's company. Thou hast been with us for good in our goings out, and thus far on our return home.

We are now speeding our way back again to the land from whence we came, and our hearts already rejoice with the cheering hope of once more beholding our native land, and those beloved friends and relations whom we there left behind us. For all these mercies, we bless and praise thy holy name. Yet, O Lord, unless thou continue to us thy loving-kindness, our hopes and expectations will surely fail us; unless the same hand that led us forth in safety, shall be stretched out to conduct us home again, we shall never behold our native dwellings.

Do thou then, O Lord, continue to go with and bless us, through all our homeward-bound passage, until we meet in

safety and peace, all who are near and dear to us. And grant, O Lord, that on our arrival in port, we may be enabled to seek and serve thee in earnestness, in spirit, and in truth. Stir up our hearts to embrace all those precious means of grace which will there offer themselves, and which we from time to time have most grievously neglected.

Grant, O heavenly Father, that as our voyage is every day shortening, we may bear in mind that our earthly course is shortening also! O keep us mindful that soon the voyage of life must be completed, and that we must appear before thee in judgment. We, O Lord, have hitherto been the prodigal sons, we have lived as without thee and without Christ in the world. In harbour and at sea, we have sinned against light and conviction. We have often grieved thy Holy Spirit, and acted rebelliously even to thy face; but, Lord, we now desire to return again unto thee, and unto the assemblies of thy worshipping people, who know and love thy name.

O, do thou pardon our past sins, and bless us with the joyful sound of thy gospel; and let it become thy power unto our salvation, through the same Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, we would ascribe equal and eternal praise.—Amen.

ON RETURNING IN SAFETY.

O eternal Lord God! thou art indeed gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness. Thou hast watched over us for good, all our lives through. Thou hast, O Lord, spared and saved, and delivered us through all our days, and especially through all the changes and dangers of the last voyage. Thou hast graciously pitied our infirmities; mercifully gone with us and delivered us from many, very many dangers. Thou hast preserved us in life and health, and now this day we again behold our native land. We this day rejoice in the prospect of again enjoy-

ing the blessings of our country, and sharing the fruits of our labours with those who are nearest and dearest to us on earth.

Heavenly Father ! do thou inspire and fill our souls with gratitude and love to thee, for thus answering our many prayers, and proving better to us than all our fears. Our help came from thee the Lord. It was thou, who alone didst preserve our goings out and our comings in. Now, Lord, grant us grace to prove our love to thee, by keeping thy commandments. O let thy mercies now bless our souls ; let the sound of thy gospel be a joyful sound unto us. May we and our families worship thee in the beauty of holiness ; in the simplicity of little children. Every day let our souls praise thee for having brought us together in peace ; and every day let our prayers ascend to him, who died for our sins, and maketh constant intercession for us.

Let the comforts we are now about to enjoy at home, and the delights we are now about to partake of in the company of our beloved friends, urge our souls to persevere after those unspeakable blessings which are at thy right hand, and for that fulness of joy which is in heaven for evermore. These prayers and thanksgivings we humbly offer unto thee, in the name, and for the sake of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit, be with us all now and for ever.
—Amen.

THE END.

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